

# Al Parke Named Southern Regional Director

## Media Contact:

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Commissioner J. David Donahue

Indianapolis, Indiana - (May 16, 2007) - J. David Donahue, Commissioner of the Department of Correction has appointed Mr. Al Parke, as the new Southern Regional Director of Department of Correction effective May 27, 2007.

"Mr. Parke has demonstrated excellent leadership qualities and a strong commitment to the Indiana Department of Correction," said J. David Donahue. "His excellence in correctional management and leadership roles in over five states has been remarkable."

Mr. Parke has been with the Indiana Department of Correction for eight years. He began his career in 1970 in Kentucky, serving as the Assistant Deputy Commissioner for Programs and Classification. He quickly moved up the ladder and served as warden of eight institutions in five states, Oklahoma, Kentucky, Colorado, New Mexico then finally in Indiana. He is also a certified consultant with the Commission on Accreditation.

Most recently, Mr. Parke served as the Superintendent of the Putnamville Correctional Facility. Under his leadership, the facility achieved the National Commission on Correctional Health Care and the American Correctional Association.

"Mr. Parke's passion and competitive drive have made him a successful leader in many jurisdictions," added Donahue. "His energy is relentless and he is well-respected by his peers. I am excited that he is taking on this new opportunity."

"I appreciate Commissioner Donahue's confidence in my leadership," said Al Parke. "He is a great leader and motivator and a great change agent in leading the Department to the 21st Century in Corrections."

The Putnamville Correctional Facility, which opened in 1914, is located in Putnam County. The

medium-security prison houses 2,400 males. It has gained recognition for its innovative Farm Program and Thoroughbred Program.

Mr. Parke holds a Master's and Bachelor of Arts Degrees in Psychology from Eastern Kentucky University.

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**About The Department of Correction**

The Department employs over 8,000 employees and houses 24,000 adult and juveniles in 32 facilities, ranging from minimum to maximum custody, prison camps, juvenile facilities and work release centers. The Department's home page on the Internet can be found at: <http://www.in.gov/indcorrection>. The Department's Re-entry Site can be found: <http://www.reentry.in.gov>.